(c) the steps taken by his Ministry to increase the bandwidth and to lay Optical Fibre Cables in th entire NER?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) North Eastern Region includes North East States and Assam. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has opened 17 Internet nodes in North-East Region. Dial up Internet access is available in the district headquarters of North-East Region on local call basis. Apart from this, private ISPs have started Internet service in North-East Region.

The details of Telecom Development for the year 2001-02 in North-East Region are as under:-

(i) In BSNL, the funds allotted to North-East Region on provisional basis are Rs. 429.84 crores.

(ii) BSNL target for the optical fibre and microwave medium are 1364 and 700 route kilometer respectively. Out of this, 7.2 route kilometers of optical fibre and 70 route Kilometer of Microwave have been completed as on 30.6.2001.

(iii) The target for Main Automatic Exchange-1 (MAX-1) exchange and Direct Exchange Line (DEL) for North East Region is 80,700 and 1,53,500 respectively. Out of this, 24,980 MAX-1 lines and 26,119 DELs have been commissioned as on 30.6.2001.

Under Community Information Centre (CIC) programme of Ministry of IT, a scheme with estimated cost of Rs. 220 crores is under implementation for setting up CICs at 487 block headquarters of seven North-East States and Sikkim. Thirty CICs have been set up as pilot project in the North-East Region during 2000 at an estimated cost of Rs. 15 crores.

Institutions under information technology

†2664. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an expansion of industries under the Information Technology sector in the country;

(b) if so, the number of institutes functioning under this sector at the end of March, 1999, March, 2000 and March 2001, State-wise; and

(c) the value of trade carried out annually by these institutes in each State?

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Software Export industry forms the largest constituent of the IT industry in India. The number of IT industries (units under Software Technology Parks) approved in these years have been 1196, 5582 and 6652 respectively and are given in the Statement-I. (*see* below)

(c) The value of trade carried out annually are given in Statement- II

Statement-I

Statewise IT Industries (Software Exporting Units registered under STP Scheme) for last 3 years

Name of the State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Andhra Pradesh	192	977	1206
Delhi	163	764	879
Gujarat	49	295	316
Haryana	27	99	129
Karnataka	276	746	932
Kerala	50	188	208
Maharashtra	142	1229	1352
Madhya Pradesh	8	65	74
Orissa	36	152	164
Punjab	20	131	147
Rajasthan	16	77	79
Tamilnadu	122	535	674
Uttar Pradesh	59	193	236
West Bengal	36	131	226
Assam			30
Total	1196	5582	6652

Statement-II

Statewise Software Exports through STPI for the last 3 Years

(Rs. in Crores)

Name of the State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Andhra Pradesh	574	1059	2017
Delhi	475	795	1100
Gujarat	13	27	102
Haryana	180	405	1450
Karnataka	2888	4321	7475

Name of the State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Kerala	44	67	141
Maharashtra	529	1534	2570
Madhya Pradesh	15	36	50
Orissa	53	89	200
Punjab	8	15	50
Rajasthan	3	15	30
Tamilnadu	748	1874	2956
Uttar Pradesh	674	1220	1660
West Bengal	96	150	250
Total	6300	11607	20051

Internet use in the country

2665. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to encourage internet services in order to promote the Information Technology in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the big cities of Rajasthan and Orissa proposed to be linked by an International Gate-way Hub;

(c) by when approval is likely to be accorded by Government in this regard; and

(d) the number of Computer Information Centres set up till date by Government in each State, State-wise, indicating the funds allocated to each Centre?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) For Rajasthan and Orissa, international connectivity through Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) International Gate- ways at Delhi. Bangalore, Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai and Pune with 34 Mbps connectivity is provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). No international gateway has been planned in Rajasthan and Orissa by BSNL. However, six other Internet Service Providers have been given in-principle clearance for setting up of international gateways for internet at Jaipur, Alwar, Kota, Udaipur, Jodhpur in Rajasthan as well as at Bhubaneswar in Orissa.

(d) There is no programme to set up Computer Information Centre. The Ministry of Information Technology is, however, implementing a scheme for setting up Community Information Centres (CICs) at 487 blocks headquarters of seven North-East States and Sikkim at sites selected by the State Governments. Thirty CICs have been set up as a pilot project during 2000 in the North-East region at an estimated cost of Rs. 15 crores, which includes maintenance and operational costs of CICs for an initial five year period. The Statewise location of thirty CICs is given in the Statement.